

FIFTEENTH
Annual Report of the Auditor
OF THE
CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA



FOR THE YEAR ENDING
AUGUST 31, 1918

Lincoln, Nebraska, March 1, 1919.

To the Honorable City Council,
City of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gentlemen:

I am submitting herewith the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Auditor of the City of Lincoln, being for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1918.

The financial report covers the fiscal year, as nearly as possible, while the reports of the operations of the different departments, in some cases cover the fiscal year, and in others, the calendar year.

Attention is again called to the difficulty of properly preparing a report which correctly reflects the activities of all of the departments of the city under our existing ordinances and charter provisions. For instance, the fiscal year begins on the first Monday in September, the Municipal year on the Monday following the first Tuesday in May, and our license year on the 1st day of June. For that reason, I again submit for your consideration a proposition to amend the ordinances and our charter so that we will not have so many different years within one calendar year.

As has been the custom for the past few years, the Water and Light departments, are publishing a separate report and therefore no mention is made in this report of their activities during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. H. BERG,

City Clerk and Auditor.

PART ONE

GENERAL INFORMATION

OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

January 1, 1919

The City of Lincoln, Nebraska, now is and since May 13, 1913, has been, operating under the Commission Form of government. Under this form of government, the city is divided into five departments, and five councilmen are elected. The five councilmen constitute the city council. The council organizes by electing one of its members as president of the council, who is also Mayor of the city. Each councilman is assigned to one of the departments, is called the superintendent thereof, and is responsible for its proper operation.

All other city officials, except Police Judge, are appointed by the council. The office of Police Judge is fixed by the constitution of the state, and this officer is elected at county and state elections.

City elections are held on the first Tuesday in May of each odd numbered year. The terms of office of councilmen are two years, beginning the first Monday following the election.

The departments of the City of Lincoln are assigned as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOHN E. MILLER, Mayor.....Superintendent

City Attorney's Office

R. W. DEVOE, Attorney

CHAS R. WILKE, Deputy

Police Department

PETER JOHNSTONE, Acting Chief of Police

Park Department

P. EDINBOROUGH, Assistant Superintendent of Parks

FACTS ABOUT LINCOLN

City originally incorporated on April 7, 1869.
Incorporated as a city of the Second Class on March 18, 1871.
Incorporated as a city of the First Class on March 25, 1887.
Altitude: 1,165 feet above sea level.
Area: 5,778.37 acres (9.2 square miles).
Paved streets and alleys. 85.51 miles.
Parks: 140 acres.
Sanitary sewers: 101.45 miles.
Storm and combined sewers, 22.24 miles.
Water mains: 109.36 miles.
Street railways: 39 miles.
Public school buildings: 18.
Churches and denominational schools: 60.
Interurban car lines: 6.
Floating debt: None.

Points of Interest

State University Farm
State Fair Grounds
State Capitol
State Penitentiary
State Hospital for Insane
Wyuka Cemetery

Capital Beach
Epworth Lake Park
Home of William J. Bryan
Caves south of City
State University Campus and
Athletic Field

street has been widened seventeen feet and curbed, thereby doing away with a dangerous curve. Four iron lamp posts were placed on the A street bridge giving a much better appearance and more light.

The pavillion in Auld Annex has been completed including wiring and lighting fixtures and the finishing of two rest rooms in the basement. The grading around the outside of the pavillion has been finished, seeded with grass and planted to trees. The creek north of the pavillion has been much improved by building an addition of about 200 feet of rip rap wall.

The Sumner street entrance has been leveled and graded and a change made in the planting plan to fit present conditions.

The improvements on O street have included grading, seeding, planting to trees and shrubs and the removal of old cottonwood trees. Between O and M streets, the improvements including the placing of about 15,000 loads of dirt for filling and the purchase and removal of one house north of N street. A substantial guard wall has been built at the south end of the conduit with rip rap on each side of the creek. The Rice lots were graded and seeded to grass and the planting of trees and shrubs continued. The Rice pumping station has been wrecked and most of the debris removed. The well has been covered with reinforced concrete floor, and it is planned to have all filled to grade and planted in the spring.

A 15-inch drain tile was placed on M street from east park line to the creek channel. At the north end of the conduit at D and Twenty-seventh streets, a wall and guard fence were built.

During the past summer the street trees in the city became badly infested with Tussock moth; the park department purchased two power sprayers and covered all territory affected with excellent results.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officers in Service

Chief of Police (acting).....	1
Captains	1
Sergeants	2
Patrolmen	15
Patrol drivers	2
Matrons	3
Total	24
Number of arrests made during year, by months—	
September, 1917	196
October	123
November	150
December	58

January, 1918	133
February	115
March	124
April	127
May	214
June	206
July	230
August	209

1,885

Males	1,722
Females	163

1,885

Number of white people.....	1,761
Number of colored people.....	124

1,885

Males—Can read and write.....	1,707
Males—Cannot read and write.....	15

1,722

Females—Can read and write.....	159
Females—Cannot read and write.....	4

163

1,885

Social conditions:

Married males	651
Single males	1,071

1,722

Married females	93
Single females	70

163

1,885
Meals Furnished

September, 1917	589
October	524
November	1,077
December	461
January, 1918	371
February	338

CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

37

March	269
April	199
May	364
June	409
July	268
August	303
Total	5,172

Causes of Arrest

Adultery	4
Assault	16
Begging	5
Breaking and entering.....	15
Breaking probation	1
Carrying concealed weapons.....	6
Chicken not to run at large upon property of another.....	9
Defrauding innkeeper	1
Disorderly conduct	74
Disturbing the peace.....	86
Discharging firearms in street.....	2
Doing business without license.....	6
Drunkenness	143
Escaping from Insane Hospital.....	3
False pretense	1
Forgery	13
Fortune telling	5
Fornication	1
Gambling	55
Indecent exposure of person.....	2
Insanity	19
Juveniles	3
Keeping a disorderly house.....	15
Larceny, grand	22
Larceny, petit	58
Maintaining a gambling resort.....	1
Non-support	3
No fund checks.....	5
Rape	2
Receiving stolen property.....	2
Reckless driving	1
Running away from home.....	15
Safe keeping	7
Selling mortgaged property.....	1
Soliciting	4
Speeding	51
Suspicious persons	194

Truancy	4
Vagrancy	116
Violating auto ordinance.....	539
Violating auto muffler ordinance.....	23
Violating building ordinance.....	3
Violating fire ordinance.....	15
Violating health ordinance.....	27
Violating liquor law.....	119
Violating peddling ordinance.....	6
Violating plumbing ordinance.....	1
Violating road ordinance.....	12
Violating sidewalk ordinance.....	36
Violating Sunday closing law.....	8
Violating tax ordinance.....	5
Violating traffic ordinance.....	1
Deserters	5
Slackers	3
Cruelty to animals.....	1
Exhibiting obscene pictures.....	1
Selling liquor	1
Using pool checks.....	1
Fit	1
Destroying property	3
Violating Espionage Act.....	3
Violating Sedition Act.....	1
Total	1,885

STREET DEPARTMENT

Machine Cleaning

64,000 yards cleaned per day.	
Sweeping and piling per thousand yards.....	\$.56
Hauling refuse, per thousand yards.....	.19
Total cost of cleaning.....	.75
Eight men employed per day at \$3.00.....	24.00
Four teams employed per day at \$6.00.....	24.00
Twenty-two yards refuse removed per day.	
3,960 yards refuse removed per year.	
11,520,000 yards cleaned per year.	
Cost per year.....	8,640.00
Twenty days required to clean the machine district.	
1,280,000 yards to be cleaned.	

These figures are based on approximately eighty-eight miles of paving averaging thirty feet in width.

CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

49

Total cash charges.....	\$ 89,161.97
Cash balance Sept. 1, 1918.....	\$ 18,725.37
Warrant debt Sept. 1, 1918.....	5,358.22
Fund bal. Sept. 1, 1918.....	\$ 13,367.15

POLICE**Receipts**

Balance Sept. 1, 1917.....	\$ 5,089.46
Tax collections.....	\$ 33,903.87
Court costs.....	3,065.95
Dog tax and pound fees.....	821.25
Auctioneers' street permits.....	5.00
Transfer	1,500.00
Proceeds of sale.....	68.40
Warrant refunds	108.40
Dogs sold	5.50
Telephone toll collections.....	9.45
Total receipts.....	\$ 39,487.82
Total credits.....	\$ 44,577.28

Disbursements

Maintenance	\$ 2,391.44
Salary	23,237.33
Feeding	425.13
Oil and gasoline.....	605.39
Auto expense	648.01
Telephone	1,992.60
Signal system expense.....	46.25
Expense catching dogs.....	73.10
Warrants issued.....	\$ 29,419.25
Warrant debt Sept. 1, 1917.....	2,534.55
Warrants paid	\$ 31,953.80
Warrant debt Sept. 1, 1918.....	2,704.61
Total cash charges.....	\$ 29,249.19
Warrant debt Sept. 1, 1918.....	\$ 15,328.09
Fund bal. Sept. 1, 1918.....	2,704.61
Fund bal. Sept. 1, 1918.....	\$ 12,623.48

TABLE NO. 7—BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS—1903 TO 1917 INCLUSIVE

	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
General	\$11,250.00	\$11,166.00	\$11,345.00	\$11,233.25	\$11,291.00	\$11,197.35	\$11,245.50	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$14,100.00	\$14,938.00	\$17,840.00	\$25,100.00	\$23,000.00
Police	12,580.00	16,666.00	19,400.00	18,023.97	18,038.00	17,885.70	18,054.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	37,400.00	34,168.00	33,700.00	33,770.00	36,800.00
Fire	36,000.00	40,000.00	41,900.00	39,619.54	42,775.00	42,760.35	42,840.00	47,500.00	47,500.00	47,500.00	61,000.00	55,115.00	53,270.00	68,000.00	85,400.00
Interest and coupon	38,227.00	51,000.00	46,530.00	43,536.00	40,208.00	38,251.35	38,403.00	40,600.00	42,500.00	42,500.00	46,700.00	41,559.00	38,000.00	38,000.00	37,500.00
Water	6,300.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	6,283.00	24,372.00	6,237.45	12,163.50	13,500.00	7,000.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	25,530.00	30,000.00	14,600.00	22,100.00
Sewers	12,150.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	12,121.00	12,186.00	12,089.15	12,163.50	17,700.00	17,500.00	13,500.00	8,900.00	14,981.00	19,260.00	12,700.00	20,200.00
Judgment	2,500.00	4,135.00	7,000.00	2,638.50	1,928.00	901.80	5,584.50	9,700.00	9,700.00	9,700.00	9,700.00	9,725.00	9,730.00	9,700.00	12,500.00
Library	6,300.00	7,700.00	7,700.00	6,917.65	9,743.00	8,717.40	8,197.50	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	11,981.00	13,000.00	17,000.00	16,000.00
Paving repair	17,100.00	19,000.00	19,000.00	17,071.99	17,143.00	1,728.45	9,027.50	49,000.00	53,300.00	57,000.00	61,300.00	54,690.00	53,600.00	56,580.00	57,000.00
Salaries	23,000.00	32,600.00	35,300.00	38,903.84	38,073.00	40,505.85	40,393.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	50,900.00	60,750.00	60,400.00	65,125.00	87,000.00
Lighting	14,850.00	16,700.00	14,000.00	15,929.08	31,533.00	17,885.70	18,054.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	50,900.00	60,750.00	60,400.00	65,125.00	87,000.00
City hall purchase	12,000.00	13,333.00	13,333.00	15,041.12	4,957.00	9,844.65	9,945.00	44,500.00	73,000.00	70,000.00	5,000.00	12,000.00	21,540.00	40,000.00	58,000.00
Sinking fund	9,000.00			9,904.00	9,914.00	3,952.95	4,513.50	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	8,649.00	6,800.00	18,500.00	9,500.00
Storm sewers					4,344.00	4,500.00	4,513.50	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00	19,981.00	27,000.00	34,500.00	45,000.00
City hall and property					4,344.00	15,556.05	15,070.50	10,000.00	15,000.00	14,500.00	11,500.00				
City park						13,902.75	17,136.00								
Paving refund sinking						17,059.05	12,010.50								
Historical Society fund															
Paving intersections															
O and N street bridges															
Bridges, culverts, crossings and streets															
Lincoln monument											6,700.00	55,901.45	53,590.00	51,500.00	48,500.00
Engineer's office expense											500.00	478.00	600.00	500.00	750.00
Paving streets adjoining city property											7,800.00	2,060.00	3,000.73	16,500.00	10,000.00
Parks and campus extension											35,000.00	25,080.00	28,620.00	18,500.00	